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be accepted with the grateful thanks of the Museum.

In accordance with a further vote of the Trustees, a committee of three of the Board waited upon Mrs. Evans after the meeting in acknowledgment of her gift.

At the same meeting a Building Committee was appointed to take charge of the construction of the new wing, and of this committee Mrs. Evans was appointed a member.

The illustration on the preceding page shows the ground outline of the proposed picture wing in its relation to the remainder of the plan for the completed Museum. It is proposed for the present to connect the new wing with the existing Museum by a two-story corridor of fireproof construction, opening on the ground floor from the Temporary Lecture Hall and on the main floor from the Rotunda. The entire main floor of the new wing will be occupied by a circuit of galleries reached from a central stairway hall with an entrance from the Fenway. The offices, reserve collections, and workrooms of the Department of Paintings will occupy the western half of the ground floor. In accordance with the original assignment of space in the completed scheme, the Department of Prints—also one of the graphic arts—will be assigned to the eastern half of this floor. Detailed plans for the new structure are now in preparation, and it is hoped that ground may be broken during the summer and the building completed by a year from next autumn.

Catalogue of an Exhibition of American Church Silver

THE following circular has just been issued by the Museum:

An Exhibition of American Church Silver of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, to include also a few exceptional pieces of domestic plate, will be held at the Museum from July to December, 1911. The Museum desires to call the attention of those interested to the Catalogue of the exhibition which it is proposed to publish. The Catalogue will list and describe about a thousand pieces, mostly belonging to the New England churches. The marks of makers will be described, donors and dates of gift noted, and the initials on domestic pieces verified when possible. Since the publication of the Catalogue of American Silver issued by the Museum in 1906 much new information has been gathered upon these points. The Catalogue will be illustrated by twenty plates showing the work of Hull and Sanderson, John Coney, Andrew Tyler, Edward Winslow, the Edwardses, Burts, Hurds, Reveres, and others. Mr. George M. Curtis will contribute an introduction on the silversmiths of Connecticut, with a list of their names. An illustrated glossary will be appended to the Catalogue giving the names of ecclesiastical and domestic pieces and explaining the terms used in

describing them. The price of the Catalogue will be \$5.00.

The Museum would be gratified to receive subscriptions to the work.

M. Jean Guiffrey

Curator of Paintings

CERTAIN friends of the Museum, realizing the importance of fostering the growth of its Collection of Paintings, have contributed a sum of money to pay the salary of a Curator during three years. The Museum has been fortunate in securing the services of M. Jean Guiffrey of Paris, to whom the French government has courteously granted leave of absence from his duties at the Louvre for this period. The duties of Keeper of Paintings will continue to be performed by Mr. John Briggs Potter, who will be relieved in future of those properly belonging to the Curatorship, hitherto kindly assumed by him, upon occasion, in the interest of the Museum.

M. Guiffrey is the son of M. Jules Guiffrey, a member of the Academie des Beaux Arts, and for fifteen years Director of the National Manufactory of Gobelins. M. Guiffrey was born in Paris November 26, 1870, and obtained his education there, graduating at the École du Louvre. He entered the service of the Louvre Museum in 1892, and is now Assistant Curator of the Department of Paintings, Drawings and Engravings. M. Guiffrey is an officer of Public Instruction, a member of the Executive Committee of the Society for the History of French Art, Treasurer of the French Committee for the Universal Exposition at Turin, General Secretary of the French Exposition of Decorative Art at Copenhagen, Secretary of the Society for the Encouragement of Art and Industry, and President of the Society for the Reproduction of Drawings by Masters.

M. Guiffrey is the author of the following publications:

Inventaire général illustré des dessins du Musée du Louvre et du Musée de Versailles. École française. En collaboration avec M. Pierre Marcel. (Five volumes have appeared; the sixth is in preparation.)

La Commission du Muséum et la fondation du Musée du Louvre.

Catalogue détaillé et critique de l'œuvre de Chardin.

Le Voyage d'Eugène Delacroix au Maroc en 1832, avec le facsimile d'un album de notes, de dessins et d'aquarelles conservé au Musée de Louvre.

Catalogue illustré de la Collection Thomy Thiéry léguée au Musée du Louvre.

Le Musée du Louvre, les peintures, les dessins et la Chalcographie (dans les grandes Institutions de la France).

Les tableaux de la Collection Chauchard.

Étude historique et critique de la Collection, avec 80 reproductions en heliogravure.

Numerous articles in the *Gazette des Beaux Arts*; le *Revue de l'Art ancien et moderne*; les *Arts*; l'*Art*; l'*Arte*, etc.

In preparation :

Rapport général sur l'Exposition française d'Art décoratif à Copenhague, 1909.

La Peinture française des Primitifs. (The first two parts have already appeared.)

M. Guiffrey, who reached Boston in April, returned to Paris during May, and expects to be again at the Museum early in August.

Nathaniel Thayer.

THE following minute on the death of Nathaniel Thayer was adopted by the Trustees of the Museum at a meeting held May 11 :

"Nathaniel Thayer served as a member of this Board twenty-four years and as a member of its Finance Committee twenty-two years. At the time of his death he was the oldest Trustee in point of service except one. He was keenly interested in the welfare of the Museum, and showed a firm confidence in its present serviceableness and in the prospects of its future development. No one faced the future more courageously than he when it became necessary to spend a large part of the funds upon which the Museum depended for its maintenance to pay for the new building. He believed that the public could be relied upon to furnish sufficient funds for the support of the Museum and the increase of its collections. To show his confidence, and to lead others by his own example to give freely to the Museum, he gave to the Classical Collection the very beautiful Greek head of the fourth century from Chios. He had previously from time to time made other desirable additions to the collections, and he had at all times contributed liberally to the funds of the Museum, especially to the Building and Maintenance Funds.

"By his death this Board loses an invaluable associate, and the Museum a most effective supporter."

Sixth Annual Meeting of the American Association of Museums

AT the invitation of the museums of Boston and its neighborhood, extended at the fifth annual meeting of the American Association of Museums in Buffalo last year, the sixth annual meeting of the Association was held here from May 23 to May 25. About one hundred members had announced their intention of attending, and a large proportion of the number were present. The list included representatives of museums in Vermont, Massachusetts,

Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Washington, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana and Canada. About one-fifth of the list represented museums of fine art, which number less than one-tenth of the museums of the country. Dr. F. J. V. Skiff, Director of the Field Museum at Chicago, President of the Association, occupied the chair at all the sessions.

The convention opened at this Museum, where the delegates were welcomed by the Director. After the presentation of annual reports and the transaction of other business, several papers were read, the session closing with a discussion of the comparative value of label, gallery book and docent in the interpretation of museum objects to visitors. A luncheon in the Museum restaurant was followed by a trip by automobile to the Harvard Medical Museum and the Arnold Arboretum, ending at the Public Library. An evening session at the Boston Society of Natural History was devoted to papers discussing various systems of recording objects acquired or considered for acquisition by museums. A general similarity between methods of permanent registration for acquisitions suggested that this topic might be discussed at the next meeting of the Association with a view to the development of a standard system.

On Wednesday, May 24, Cambridge Day, after the election of officers for the coming year, the representatives of museums of fine art continued the morning session at the Fogg Museum, devoting the afternoon to visiting the museums of Harvard. The science delegates visited the museums in the morning and met in the afternoon for the reading of papers at the University Museum. Luncheon was served at the Harvard Union, where President Lowell received and addressed the members. At the evening session at the Boston Society of Natural History the delegates heard with much interest how certain museums had gained for themselves the exceptional place they hold in the lives of the communities they serve.

On Thursday, May 25, Salem Day, the Association met in that city. After an inspection of the local museums, the members enjoyed a luncheon at the Peabody Museum. An afternoon session devoted to the reading of papers took place in Academy Hall, and the Association adjourned at 3 P. M. *sine die*.

In response to invitations from museums at Lancaster, Andover and Worcester, groups of the delegates spent the following day in these cities. The meeting of 1912 is to take place in New York. The officers for the ensuing year are : President, Professor Edward S. Morse of the Peabody Museum of Salem and of this Museum; First Vice-President, Henry L. Ward of the Milwaukee Public Museum; Second Vice-President, Benjamin Ives Gilman of this Museum; Secretary, Paul M. Rea of the Charleston Museum; Treasurer, Wm. P. Wilson of the Philadelphia Museums.